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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masaki OKAMURA

Group Art Unit: 2838

Application No.: 10/560,087

Examiner: R. PATEL

Filed: December 9, 2005

Docket No.: 126235

For: VOLTAGE CONVERSION DEVICE AND COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING
MEDIUM HAVING PROGRAM RECORDED THEREON FOR COMPUTER TO
CONTROL VOLTAGE CONVERSION

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the July 27, 2007 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks. Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-11 are pending in the application.

Applicant notes that the drawings filed December 9, 2005 are not acknowledged. Acknowledgement is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Patel at the interview held September 17, 2007, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-11 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Komatsu et al. (US 2003/0081440) ("Komatsu"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Komatsu does not support the rejection for at least the reasons that Komatsu does not disclose "in a case where a first deviation between said first target voltage and said detected output voltage is larger than a predetermined value, by changing a second target voltage of said voltage converter in such a manner that a second deviation between said second target voltage and said output voltage decreases," as recited in independent claim 1. Moreover, Komatsu fails to disclose "feedback control of said voltage converter executed by changing said second target voltage in such a manner that said second deviation is at most said predetermined value," as further recited in claim 1, and "in a case where said detected output voltage having been decreasing starts to increase, by changing said second target voltage in such a manner that the rate of change of said second target voltage is at most a standard value," as still further recited in claim 1. Independent claim 6 includes similar recitations.

The Office Action does not discuss the above-noted claim features, or give any indication of what elements of Komatsu are alleged to correspond to the noted claim features. Instead, the Office Action merely states, "[f]urther circuit meets the structural limitation."

However, a careful review of Komatsu does not reveal the claimed subject matter, and therefore the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn. If the Examiner is of a different opinion, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner clearly articulate his reasons. It is noted that 37 CFR § 1.104(c)(2) states:

In rejecting claims for want of novelty or for obviousness, the examiner must cite the best references at his or her command. When a reference is complex or shows or describes inventions other than that claimed by the applicant, **the particular part relied on must be designated as nearly as practicable. The pertinence of each reference, if not apparent, must be clearly explained** and each rejected claim specified.

Applicant respectfully submits that Office Action does not meet the above requirements.

During the interview the Examiner alleged that the above-noted claim features are "functional" and that therefore they were not given patentable weight. However, the noted claim features are recited in combination with structure ("control means") and for at least that reason must be given patentable weight.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

William E. Curry
Registration No. 43,572

JAO:WEC/dxc

Date: October 23, 2007

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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